

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM	Application Number	10/617894	RECEIVED
	Filing Date	July 11, 2003	CENTRAL FAX CENTER
	First Named Inventor	Bouic, Phillip J.	JUL 15 2005
	Art Unit	1771	
	Examiner Name	Hai Vo	
Fax: 703-872-9306	Attorney Docket Number	58670US004	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 3			
Date: July 15, 2005	Attorney for Applicant: Pamela L. Stewart		

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)			
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Customer Number

Patent
Case No.: 58670US004RECEIVED
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JUL 15 2005

First Named Inventor: BOUC, PHILLIP J.

Application No.: 10/617894

Group Art Unit: 1771

Filed: July 11, 2003

Examiner: Hai Vo

Title: PATTERNED POLYMER ARTICLES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENTCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION (37 CFR § 1.8(a))**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

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transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-6306.

July 15, 2005

Date



Signed by: Pamela L. Stewart

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 15, 2005. Claims 1-65 are pending.

Claims 1-65 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-22 and 27-43 are said to be drawn to a non-foamed polymeric article, classified in Class 428, subclass 174;
- II. Claims 23-26, 44 and 65 are said to be drawn to a foamed polymeric article, classified in Class 428, subclass 304.4+;
- III. Claims 45-61 are said to be drawn to a method of making an article of polymeric material, classified in Class 264, subclass 405;
- IV. Claims 62-64 are said to be drawn to an apparatus for manufacturing an article of polymeric material, classified in Class 425, subclass 174.

Election

In response, Applicants elect Group II, claims 23-26, 44, and 65, with traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested as applicants feel that at least as to Groups I & II the claims are so

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interrelated that a search of one group will reveal art to the other. Moreover, the classification of Groups I and II in different subclasses is not sufficient grounds to require restriction.

Were restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, a separate examination of the claims in Groups I and II would require substantial duplication of work on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Even though some additional consideration would be necessary, the scope of analysis of novelty of all the claims of Groups I and II would have to be as rigorous as when only the claims of Group II were being considered by themselves. Clearly, this duplication of effort would not be warranted where these claims of different categories are so interrelated.

Further, Applicants submit that for restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, it would place an undue burden by requiring payment of a separate filing fee for examination of the nonelected claims, as well as the added costs associated with prosecuting two applications and maintaining two patents.

Conclusion

Applicants have elected Group II. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

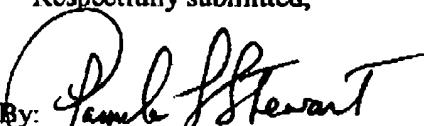
It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

Date

July 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
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